

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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R 300550Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7220

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 0797

CINCLANT AND CINCUSNAVEUR FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, MA

SUBJECT: FRENCH-MALAGASY RELATIONS

REF: TANANARIVE 0420 AND 0790; TANANARIVE A-031, APRIL 10,
1975

SUMMARY: FRENCH RELATIONS WITH THE NEW MALAGASY GOVERNMENT UNDER GENERAL ANDRIAMHAZO HAVE NOT DEVELOPED AS CLOSELY AS THEY MIGHT HAVE IN THE INTERESTS OF WEST. THEREFORE, IN FAREWELL CALL ON NEW FRENCH AMBASNAUPJ I TRIED SUBTLY TO GET ACROSS DESIRABILITY OF INITIATIVE ON HIS PART TO DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT FOR ANDRIAMHAZO. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING FAREWELL CALL ON FRENCH AMBASSADOR ROGER APRIL 25 I TOLD HIM THAT GENERAL ANDRIAMHAZO, CHAIRMAN, MALAGASY MILITARY DIRECTORY, HAD INDICATED TO ME PRECEDING DAY THAT HE WAS UNHAPPY WITH BOTH FRANCE AND U.S., AND THAT HE FELT THAT WESTERN DEMOCRACIES (WHOSE FRIEND HE REPRESENTS) WERE LETTING HIM DOWN.

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2. I TOLD ROGER THAT ANDRIAMAHAZO IS UNHAPPY WITH US BECAUSE OF DISAPPEARANCE OF THE AMERICAN PRISONER REPPAS. I SAID I HAD ENDEAVORED TO COUNTER EFFECT OF THIS EVENT ON ANDRIAMAHAZO BY CITING TO HIM SUPPORT WHICH WASHINGTON IS DEMONSTRATING FOR HIM AS HEAD OF DIRECTORY: DISASTER RELIEF, \$3 MILLION RAILROAD LOAN AND 25,000 TONS OF PL 480 RICE NOW UNDER NEGOTIATION.

3. ROGER SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH ANDRIAMAHAZO ONLY WHEN HE PRESENTED CREDENTIALS. HE SAID ANDRIAMAHAZO HAD ADVISED HIM THEN THAT, TO AVOID MISINTERPRETATION IN VIEW OF ANDRIAMAHAZO'S KNOWN FRIENDSHIP FOR WEST, HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SEE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOO FREQUENTLY. THEREFORE, ROGER HAS NOT PUSHED FORWARD TO SHOW FRENCH SPPORT FOR ANDRIAMAHAZO.

4. HOWEVER, ROGER POINTED TO FACT THAT FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES HAD JUST RECEIVED MALAGASY FOREIGN MINISTER ZAKARIASY, A CALL HE NOTED THAT HAD NOT BEEN EASY TO ARRANGE.

5. HE ALSO REFERRED TO EXTENSIVE FRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY EDUCATIONAL, TO MADAGASCAR, AS WELL AS SUBSTANTIAL FRENCH ASSISTANCE THROUGH FED. HE ADDED THAT, WITH RESPECT TO OTHER ASSISTANCE, SUCH AS BILATERAL CAPITAL AID, NO REQUESTS HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM GOMR.

6. I COMMENTED THAT MADAGASCAR, LIKE MANY OTHER LDC'S, HAS TROUBLE IN COMING UP WITH SPECIFIC PROJECTS. I TRIED TO GET ACROSS IN SUBTLE MANNER DESIRABILITY OF FRENCH INITIATIVE WITH RESPECT TO BILATERWW ASSISTANCE AS GESTURE OF SUPPORT TO ANDRIAMAHAZO.
MENDENHALL

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